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- (74) Agents: **LEE, Michael, Q.** et al.; Sterne, Kessler, Goldstein & Fox P.L.L.C., Suite 600, 1100 New York Avenue, N.W., Washington, DC 20005-3934 (US).
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- (71) Applicant: **AURIGIN SYSTEMS, INC.** [US/US]; 1975 Landings Drive, Mountain View, CA 94043-0801 (US).
- (72) Inventors: **GERMERAAD, Paul, B.**; 14606 Horseshoe Drive, Saratoga, CA 95070 (US). **HOHMANN, Luke**; 306 Windmill Park Lane, Mountain View, CA 94043 (US). **RAPPAPORT, Irving, S.**; 1500 Edgewood Drive, Palo Alto, CA 94303 (US). **RIVETTE, Kevin, G.**; 2165 Waverly Street, Palo Alto, CA 94303 (US).
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(54) Title: **PATENT-RELATED TOOLS AND METHODOLOGY FOR USE IN RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS**

R&D TOOLS MAP

			R&D STAGES					PORTFOLIO
			IDEA	PRELIMINARY ASSESSMENT	FEASIBILITY	DEVELOPMENT	SCALE-UP	
202	TOPOGRAPHIC MAP	OVERALL VIEW OF RELATED ART, USES, COMPETITORS	1	10	21	33		51
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206	TOP INVENTOR TABLE	RANKED LIST OF INVENTORS	3					
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214	SIC CLASSIFICATION	WHICH MARKET SEGMENTS CAN USE THE PRODUCT/SERVICES		14	25	36		
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218	PATENT COUNT/YEAR	HOW FAST IS PROJECT TECHNOLOGY CHANGING		15	26	37	45	
220	APPLICATION COUNT/YEAR	WHICH OTHER COMPANIES ARE ACTIVE IN PRODUCT AREA		16	27	38	46	
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(57) Abstract: The present invention is related to patent-related tools, and methodologies involving those tools, for assisting in all stages of research and development (R & D) projects. IPAM server may be used in conjunction with the tools and methodology to aid in R & D projects. The IPAM server can also be used as a support tool for independent inventors. These tools or methods include, but are not limited to, a topographic map, a top company table, a top inventor table, an inventors by company table, a features grouping, a technology classification, a Standard Industrial Codes (SIC) classification, a patent count per year chart, a patent count per year chart, an application count per year chart, a technology by company map, a patent citation tree, a nested patent citation tree, a product/patent/revenue table, a patent/months to issue chart, and a document/annotation chart.

**Previous Corrections:**

see PCT Gazette No. 16/2001 of 19 April 2001, Section II  
see PCT Gazette No. 06/2001 of 8 February 2001, Section  
II

*For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.*

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No

PCT/US 00/09382

**A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER**  
IPC 7 G06F17/60 G06F17/30

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

**B. FIELDS SEARCHED**

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 G06F

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, PAJ

**C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT**

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	WO 98 55945 A (SMARTPATENTS INC) 10 December 1998 (1998-12-10) the whole document ---	1
X	US 5 721 910 A (COHEN ROGER W ET AL) 24 February 1998 (1998-02-24) the whole document ---	1
X	NARIN F ET AL: "TECHNOLOGICAL PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENTS BASED ON PATENTS AND PATENT CITATIONS" IEEE TRANSACTIONS ON ENGINEERING MANAGEMENT, US, IEEE INC. NEW YORK, vol. EM31, no. 4, 1 November 1984 (1984-11-01), pages 172-183, XP000572078 ISSN: 0018-9391 the whole document --- -/--	1

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

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- \*Y\* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.
- \* & \* document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

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Name and mailing address of the ISA

European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2  
NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk  
Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl.  
Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

Authorized officer

Abbing, R

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## C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
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A	US 5 826 252 A (ISAACS JAMES RUSSELL ET AL) 20 October 1998 (1998-10-20) the whole document ----	1
A	STEFANOV V: "Some Possibilities of a @?Patents@? Database in Determining a Firm's Policy" WORLD PATENT INFORMATION, GB, ELSEVIER SCIENCES PUBLISHING, BARKING, vol. 17, no. 3, 1 September 1995 (1995-09-01), pages 201-204, XP004037786 ISSN: 0172-2190 the whole document ----	1
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